## **Remarks**

Upon entry of the instant Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-18 are pending. Multiple dependencies in claims 7, 17 and 18 have been eliminated. The amendments are a matter of form. Said amendments are without prejudice to the filing of claims directed to such canceled subject matter in the instant or a subsequent application. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants aver that the instant claims are now in better condition for examination on the merits and for allowance. Early favorable action is respectfully solicited. If minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative.

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DRC/

Respectfully submitted

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